



Technical Update GA-2012-03

April 6, 2012

Enhancements to NSLDS Enrollment Reporting and the Enrollment Notification File

This information is intended for the person in your organization who is responsible for working with the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS). Please ensure the appropriate person receives this update.

Introduction

We recently informed the community of upcoming enhancements to the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) Enrollment Reporting process in [Dear Colleague Letter GEN-12-06, posted to the Information for Financial Aid Professionals \(IFAP\) Web site on March 30, 2012](#). As described in the Dear Colleague Letter, we are enhancing the Enrollment Reporting process to ensure the accuracy of enrollment reporting as well as to allow greater flexibility for reporting. The enhancements include new populations for inclusion in the process, additional data elements, enhanced notification files to loan holders, and options for additional loan holders to receive certified enrollment data.

The purpose of this Technical Update is to inform the Guaranty Agency (GA) community of these changes to the NSLDS Enrollment Reporting Process, and specifically, to the Notification File layout. The new file layout, posted to the [NSLDS Record Layouts section on the IFAP Web site](#), is available now to enable you to begin programming for these enhancements. These changes will be implemented in July 2012; however, the current file layout will continue to be supported through March 2013 to allow adequate transition time to the new layout.

Enrollment Reporting Process Enhancements

Beginning in July 2012, the Department of Education (the Department) will provide loan servicers with NSLDS enrollment data for students who receive other forms of Title IV aid in addition to loans. NSLDS will begin gathering enrollment data on students who receive only Federal Pell Grants (Pell Grants) and/or Federal Perkins Loans (Perkins Loans). This will assist GAs when a student transfers to another school and does not receive a new William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan).

830 First St. N.E., Washington, DC 20202
www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov
1-800-4-FED-AID

In addition, NSLDS will also begin collecting “Anticipated Completion Date” on students reported with a less than half-time status (L) enrollment status code.

Finally, we will be adding the option of allowing students to log onto the [NSLDS Student Access Web site](#) to inform NSLDS of a new school they are attending, or to indicate they are returning to their current school. NSLDS will use this information to add students to the roster of the schools indicated in order to receive new certified records of their enrollment status. The certified data will then be reported to the appropriate servicing entities.

Enrollment Reporting Notification File Enhancements

We are updating the current Enrollment Notification file used by GAs to include new fields collected from schools, as well as to provide additional data available in the NSLDS records. The new fields provided by schools are term begin date, term end date, and the student’s address.

Additionally, we are adding a new section to the layout to help ensure that a student is not inappropriately moved into a grace period or out of an in-school deferment. When a school reports a status *other than* an active status of Full-time (F), Half-time (H), or Approved Leave of Absence (A), NSLDS will also provide an alternate active attendance record certified by a different school location, if such a record exists. The alternate enrollment record will include the 8-digit OPEID of the school that is still reporting an active record, along with the certification date, enrollment status code, code effective date, and anticipated completion date of the active record. This alternate information will be on the same notification record as the inactive status, in a new set of fields.

The enhanced notification file layout is available in the [NSLDS Record Layouts section on the IFAP Web site](#). The Enrollment Notification file will be sent from NSLDS with the new Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) message class EFNOTFOP.

Additional Enrollment Reporting Notification File Recipients

As described in [Dear Colleague Letter GEN-12-06](#), additional loan holders will soon have the opportunity to sign up for the enrollment notification process. These entities will have a “portfolio” of borrowers for whom they hold loans and will receive certified enrollment data for those borrowers. This process will be made available in July 2012 to Perkins data providers and Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program lenders and their servicers.

The enrollment data received from NSLDS is the data the Department considers to be the certified record from the school and the record upon which servicing action should be taken. Entities receiving data directly from NSLDS will use the NSLDS records as the “actionable” information.

Perkins data providers wishing to sign up for the notification process may do so beginning in July 2012 on the [NSLDS Professional Access Web site](#). Lenders and servicers may sign up for the service on the [SAIG Enrollment Web site](#) in May 2012. The new notification files will be transmitted beginning in July 2012. All notification recipients will receive files each week with certified enrollment data.

Enhanced Notification File Implementation Dates

Implementation of the new file format will begin in July 2012. However, the current notification file will continue to be available until March 2013, and will continue to be delivered using Message Class GASSCROP. By **March 31, 2013** all GAs will be expected to be able to receive and process the enhanced notification file. Additional information will be provided in subsequent GA Technical Updates posted to the [IFAP Web site](#).

If you have any questions, please contact the NSLDS Customer Support Center at 800/999-8219 or by e-mail at NSLDS@ed.gov.